

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5447

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Government Operations & Elections, February 17, 2009

Title: An act relating to county authority to lease with an option to purchase.

Brief Description: Changing the county population requirement in order for a county to lease space with an option to purchase.

Sponsors: Senators Fairley, Hobbs and Berkey.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Government Operations & Elections: 2/17/09 [DP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ELECTIONS

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Fairley, Chair; Oemig, Vice Chair; Roach, Ranking Minority Member; McDermott and Swecker.

Staff: Edward Redmond (786-7471)

Background: Current law provides that counties with a population of one million or more are authorized to lease space. Such counties may provide for the leasing through leases with an option to purchase and the acquisition of buildings erected upon land owned by the county.

Summary of Bill: Provisions granting a county authority to lease space are amended. The minimum population of such counties is decreased from one million to 600,000.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: The bill gives Snohomish and Pierce County the same authority that King County has to lease buildings with the option to purchase. It is simply another financing tool, another way for local governments to finance or renovate a new or existing building. Snohomish County is currently looking at different options to finance an emergency center and justice building. This bill will give Snohomish County an additional financing tool to use for these projects.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Briahna Taylor, Snohomish County; Brynn Brady, Pierce County.